Warfarin and Other Medication

Many people with Atrial Fibrillation may find that Warfarin therapy is recommended to thin the blood and reduce their risk of stroke. Warfarin is a very effective medication however it does require regular monitoring to assess how thin it makes the blood. It works by interfering with how the liver uses the Vitamin K taken in our diet. Many other medications are also broken down by the liver and may affect how effectively Warfarin thins the blood. This can increase the effect of Warfarin and thus require a lower dose to be taken or it may decrease the effect of Warfarin requiring a higher dose needing to be taken.

Being on both Warfarin and medications that will effect it’s actions is not a problem when taken in the long term, however when such drugs are started or their dose changed then increased monitoring of the INR is required.

Medications that increase the effects of Warfarin include:

- Amiodarone: heart rhythm medication
- Aspirin: pain killer
- Allopurinol: used in gout
- Ampicillin: antibiotic
- Atorvastatin: cholesterol medication
- Celecoxib: anti-inflammatory pain killer
- Cefalexin: antibiotic
- Cefradine: antibiotic
- Cimetidine: indigestion and stomach ulcer healing medication
- Citalopram: antidepressant
- Ciprofloxacin: antibiotic
- Clarithromycin: antibiotic
- Clopidogrel: antiplatelet medication
- Cranberry Juice: drink
- Dexamethadone: oral steroid medication
- Diclofenac: anti-inflammatory pain killer
- Dipyridamole: antiplatelet medication
- Disulfiram: used in alcohol misuse therapy
- Entacapone: used in Parkinson’s disease
- Erythromycin: antibiotic
- Esomeprazole: indigestion and stomach ulcer healing medication
- Flutamide: anti-inflammatory pain killer
- Fluoxetine: as oral anti-fungal medication
- Glucosamine: used in prostate cancer
- Ibuprofen: antidepressant
- Itraconazole: as oral anti-fungal medication
- Ketoconazole: thyroid replacement hormone
- Levothyroxine: anti-inflammatory pain killer
- Mefenamic Acid: used for period pain
- Meloxicam: anti-inflammatory pain killer
- Metronidazole: antibiotic
- Miconazole: as oral anti-fungal medication
- Mirtazepine: antidepressant
- Neomycin: antibiotic
- Norfloxacin: anti-inflammatory pain killer
- Omeprazole: indigestion and stomach ulcer healing medication
- Orlistat: anti-obesity medication
- Oxytetracycline: antibiotic
- Piroxicam: anti-inflammatory pain killer
- Pantoprazole: indigestion and stomach ulcer healing medication

(at high dose only)
Medications that decrease the effect of warfarin include:

- Barbiturates 
- Bosentan
- Carbamazepine
- Griseofulvin
- Phenytoin
- Primidone
- Rifampin
- St John’s Wort
- Sucralfate
- Vitamin K

Medications that decrease the effect of warfarin include:

- Paroxetine antidepressant
- Prednisolone oral steroid medication (at high dose only)
- Progounil malaria treatment and prophylaxis
- Rosuvastatin cholesterol medication antidepressant
- Sertraline anti-obesity medication
- Simvastatin cholesterol medication used to treat hypotension
- Sixaxentan anti-epileptic medication used to treat hypotension
- Sodium Valporate anti-epileptic medication gout medication used in breast cancer
- Carbamazepine anti-epileptic medication
- Griseofulvin as an oral antifungal medication
- Phenytoin anti-epileptic medication
- primidone anti-epileptic medication
- Rifampin antibiotic
- St John’s Wort antidepressant (use with warfarin is not recommended)
- Sucralfate indigestion and stomach ulcer healing medication
- Vitamin K vitamin supplement

Warfarin and Other Medication - Patient Information

THIS LIST IS NOT INTENDED TO BE COMPREHENSIVE BUT HELPFUL AS A GUIDE